



# LARC



Volume 49, Number 3

March 2009

## February General Meeting Highlights

The February General Meeting was very interesting. This happened to be our "Election of Officers" meeting. Our nominating committee consisting of John Martin W5SE (SK), Archie Hill W5AG, Sandra LeBlanc KE5KJF, who spoke to numerous club members prior to the meeting about running for President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer but no one responded.

After looking for nominations from the floor without any results, **John Conniff W4JHC**, was kind of "railroaded" into accepting the office of President. John has become pretty well involved in all of our club activities and we thought he would be a great choice.

I, **Herman Campbell KN5GRK**, accepted to go the round for a year as Vice President (vice is one of my hobbies) hi hi, so you'll have to put up with me for a year.

**Paul Scallan K5VSH**, after a little persuasion and an explanation of the duties of the Secretary agreed to take that position.

**Joy Breaux N5YCS**, agreed to remain as the club Treasurer as she is familiar with the bookkeeping system and it would be a little hard to train someone else, she does her job well. We could use her in Washington DC.

Those on our board will be Charlie Morrison KI5XP, as outgoing President, he will automatically become a board member. Sandra LeBlanc KE5KJF agreed to remain as a board member. New member Nick Romero KE5MWX agreed to become a board member. I, as newsletter editor, will also remain as a board member.

It was agreed by the majority of the club that we give these Guys & Gals any support they will need for the 2009-2010 year.

**(This is our part of the "STIMULUS PLAN")**

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Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD, agreed to head up the Louisiana QSO Party to take place on February 14<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm. The Lafayette Parish EOC will be the operating point for this event. The club call W5DDL will be used by one station and another station will be used for personal operating. A report from Larry on how things worked out will be found in another part of this newsletter (see page 3).



President John W4JHC

Roland NA5Q, our hamfest chairman, gave an update on how things are coming along and it looks good so far. Check out the hamfest website at:  
<http://www.w5ddl.org/hamfest/>

Herman KN5GRK  
Vice President & LARC Editor

## President's Message

I am honored to have been chosen to serve as your president. If I do half as well as our former president, I will consider it a successful year. Charlie, KI5XP is a great ham and was a fabulous president. We should all thank him for his efforts on behalf of our club. Charlie, I will call on you often for advice.

I am a relatively new ham. I was licensed in 2006. However, I have been around hams all my life. My father Jack Conniff (John R., Jr.) was W4HVV. Sometime in the late 1950s Dad served as president of the Birmingham Amateur Radio Club, BARC. When I was about four, we lived with my Grandmother. If you go to QRZ.COM and type in W4JHC, you'll see me sitting in my Dad's shack making my first assisted contact. I still remember that occasion but alas, I have not found the log of that contact!

(see column 2 page 2)

## SPECIAL NOTICE

### March General Meeting

The March General Meeting of the AARA will be held on the Thursday following the Rayne Hamfest (March 19<sup>th</sup>) at 7:00 pm at the Red Cross Building, 101 North Pat Street, Scott, Louisiana. We will be having the drawing for the HT to the lucky club member who has been attending the meeting during the year.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### REGULAR MEETING

Thursday March 19<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 PM  
Red Cross Building - 101 N. Pat St.  
VE Testing @ 6:00 pm - Door Prizes - Refreshments

### HAMFEST SCHEDULE

Rayne AARA Hamfest, March 13 & 14,  
2009

### Local 2-Meter Nets

#### Sunday

Opelousas Area ARA Net 7:00 PM  
146.820 Lafayette, LA

#### Monday

AARA Net 7:00 PM  
146.820 Lafayette, LA  
Acadia Parish ARES Net 8:00 PM  
147.240 pl 127.3 Crowley, LA

#### Tuesday

Acadiana ARES Net 7:00 PM  
145.370 - 600 PL 103.5  
YL/XYL / Filly Net 7:00 PM  
146.820 Lafayette, LA

#### Wednesday

Vermillion Parish ARES Net 8:00 PM  
147.060 Abbeville, LA

#### Friday

HEAL Net 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays Only 1:00 PM  
146.820 Lafayette, LA

### AARA OFFICERS 2009-2010

**President - John Cuniff W4JHC**  
jhcuniff@cox.net

**Vice Pres. & Newsletter Editor -**  
**Herman Campbell KN5GRK**

**Secretary - Paul Scallan K5VSH**

**Treasurer - Joy Breaux N5YCS**

#### BOARD MEMBERS

**Charlie Morrison - KI5XP**

**Sandy LeBlanc - KE5KJF**

**Nick Romero - KE5MWX**

**Public Relations Officer**

**Dagmar Whittemore - KE5CGN**

**QSL Manager**

**Roland Guidry - NA5Q**

The **LARC** is published monthly by the:  
**Acadiana Amateur Radio Association**  
P. O. Box 51174

Lafayette, Louisiana 70505-1174

Regular meetings 1st Thursday of  
each month at 7:00 p.m. at the  
American Red Cross Building  
101 North Pat Street Scott, LA

### President's Message

(continued from page 1)

One of my great regrets in life was not getting my ham license earlier. After getting out of graduate school in 1981, I began studying for my ham license. I could pass the written but could never get up to the 13 wpm then required for the general. (I still can't!) When Dad heard I was studying, he went out and bought the newest HF rig which was the ICOM 720A. He was sure I would be a "general" soon. We had moved away from the rural neighborhood where Dad had his tower so he had sold all of his hf equipment years earlier and rag chewed on the local FM repeaters when they became available in Birmingham. He threw up a flimsy dipole into the trees and ran a ladder line down to a small room that had been my bedroom as a teenager.

But I never heard Dad on the air and never contacted him. He was there, I wasn't. I inherited that old ICOM when Dad passed away in 1998. I don't consider him a Silent Key. He speaks to me every day! And I speak to him through that old ICOM.

After obtaining my technician license, I decided to join the club. The first meeting I attended, a man gave a lecture on radio frequency interference. It was great. Since then, no one has given any talks! I thought this was a fabulous idea so I'll bring it up again. Would the members appreciate something like this? We can attempt to have a shortened meeting and then eat while someone gives a talk. We'll limit it to 30 minutes. That way, we'll get out at about the same time. This could happen three or four times during the year. There are several talks that I could give comparing and contrasting ham radio and geophysics. I can make them technical, not so technical or just a "gosh golly, what great pictures" show.

John W4JHC  
AARA President

## Fellow AARA Members

On 17 January 2009 Irma and I attended the Hammond Hamfest and had a very good time. The attendance this year was about the same as it was year before last. During the ARRL Forum several plaques were handed out to various clubs as a result of their participation in the 2008 Field Day.

Irma and I were asked to accept a plaque on behalf of AARA and an additional plaque on behalf of Roland Guidry (NA5Q). It is with great pleasure that we were able to depart from the Hammond with these plaques and to turn them over to the Club President, Charlie (KI5XP) for presentation to AARA and to Roland.

The plaque for W5DDL was for **1<sup>st</sup> Place** participation in the "1A" category and the other plaque which went to Roland (NA5Q) was for **1<sup>st</sup> Place** participation in the 2B2 category. W5DDL amassed a score of 3,780 points, with 780 QSO's and 42 participants while Roland had a score of 1,754 points, 490 QSO's with two participants. Congratulations to the participating members W5DDL and to NA5Q and his partner for a job well done.

73,  
Jim & Irma  
(N5NVP & KE5UPK)

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The AARA would like to welcome the following first time members.

David Redfearn N4ELM  
Diane Redfearn KD4OLQ  
Joe LeBlanc AB5GC  
Laura LeBlanc (no call yet)

If you hear them on the air, say "HELLO" to them.

## AARA & Louisiana QSO Party

The Louisiana QSO party was held on Saturday February 14<sup>th</sup> at the Lafayette Parish Emergency Operations Center (EOC) located in the basement of the Parish Courthouse in Lafayette, Louisiana. All the volunteers showed up to lend a hand or a voice to the event. Ed Roy (WA5TNK) lead the way by opening up the room before any of the team showed up (start time 0900, end time 2100). Bill Vincent (EOC Director) dropped by to make sure we did not set fire to the place. We would like to extend our appreciation to Bill and the girls working 911 for the use of their facilities.

AARA volunteers for this event were: Archie (W5AG), Glen (KD5NVC), Herman (KN5GRK) and myself (KE5KJD) operating in the morning with John (W4JHC) and myself holding up the later hours in the afternoon.

The equipment operated without flaw and we were making contacts at a steady clip. More could have been made, but operating two voice radios a couple of feet apart is not easy. Lucky for us Archie's preferred mode was CW.

We made a total of 201 QSO's, 45 were CW and 156 SSB. We worked 39 different states and 6 DX countries. The raw breakout is as follows:



Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD  
Group Leader

Band	CW	SSB	Total
20 m	45	48	93
40 m	0	108	108

We all had a great time and for most of us it was the first time to participate in a contest. Next year will be even better.



Archie – W5AG making some CW contacts.



John – W4JHC making some 40 m SSB contacts



Larry– KE5KJD making some 40 m SSB contacts



l to r: Herman (standing), Archie, Glenn & Ed

Thanks to all stations making contacts with us, we were not in the contest to win, but there to have a lot of training and “FUN” and we did.

Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD  
AARA Louisiana QSO Party Chairperson

## Club Newsletters

During the February 8th Louisiana ARES EchoLink Conference, I had mentioned that it would be nice to have a central website for all the Louisiana amateur clubs to post their newsletters. There was some discussion about this and most thought it was a good idea, however I have not received any replies of anyone wanting to volunteer to take over this project.

I receive about five monthly newsletters and save them on my hard drive. No one sees them except me. If I would send them out in my e-mails, it would be a fairly large file and those with dial-up internet, would have a long download and then some may not be interested in these newsletters.

If we had a central website location, clubs could post their club newsletters and readers could select the ones they want to view, download and print out. Most are in Adobe Acrobat Reader format (.pdf).

I believe this would stimulate more clubs publishing on-line newsletters which will reduce cost in printing and postage expenses.

I send out e-mail notices to 300 + persons and send out 22 hard copies each month to our LARC readers.

If you are interested or know of anyone that would like to undertake this task, please let me know.

Herman KN5GRK  
LARC Editor – V. President  
kn5grk@w5ddl.org

## New Lafayette Parish Assistant Emergency Coordinators

We are proud to announce that we have three new assistant EC's. They are:  
Glenn & Linda Breaux KD5NVC & KE5HSY and John Conniff W4JHC.



# 49<sup>th</sup> ACADIANA HAMFEST 2009

Sponsored by: Acadiana Amateur Radio Association, Inc.  
March 13 & 14, 2009

Doors open Friday 5 PM to 8 PM—Crawfish Boil and Fais-Do-Do at 6 PM  
Doors open Saturday 8 AM to 2 PM

Rayne Civic Center, Rayne, LA 70578  
300 Frog Festival Drive—Gossen Memorial Park

Talk-in: 146.820 no PL tone

**Directions:** I-10 Exit 87 South in Rayne, go down to first traffic light, take right on Oak Street, go down to the second street, turn right on Gossen Memorial Drive, follow signs to Rayne Civic Center (big building).

Registration at the door is \$5.00 per person which includes 1 free raffle ticket good for Grand Prizes and Door Prizes.

## Grand Prizes:

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Icom 718—HF Transceiver
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Icom 208H— 2 Meter Mobile
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Icom V8000— 2 Meter Mobile
- 4<sup>th</sup> - Icom V8—2 Meter HT

Need not be present to win the above.

Door Prizes awarded during the day, must be present for these.

Flea Market & Dealers Tables available with power available.

On-site RV parking with power and water hook-ups.

Motels near hamfest site.

## Schedules:

- 0830 - Bingo for Ladies
- 0830 - Card Checking: DXCC, VUCC, WAS
- 0845 - VE Test Session
- 0900-1000 - AMSAT Forum
- 1000-1100 - Louisiana Contest Club Forum
- 1100-1300 - ARRL Forum
- 1100 - Fox Hunt
- 1300 - Grand Prize Drawings
- 1400 - Hamfest closes



Crawfish Boil & Fais- Do-Do on  
Friday at 6:00 PM

Hamfest website:

<http://www.w5ddl.org/hamfest/>

## March 2009 Special Events & Contests

- March 7 & 8** ARRL International DX Contest
- March 7-21** **W4B** - 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Macklenburg Amateur Radio Society.
- March 15** North American RTTY Sprint
- March 19-22** **W5G** - 260<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Founding of Goliad, second oldest town in Texas.
- March 21** **W4BKM** - 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Macon Cherry Blossom Festival, Macon, GA
- March 21** **N16IW** - USS Midway (CV 41) Museum Radio Room, Commemorating the establishment of Naval Security Group in 1935, and Navy SEABEES in 1942.
- March 23-29** **W4U** - 77<sup>th</sup> Running of Carolina Cup Steeplechase Races.
- March 28** CQ WPX SSB Contest

Check out the March 2009 QST page 78 and 94 for a more detailed listing of Special Events and Contests.



3/03	KC5MMG	ED
3/15	KE5EEO	JOHN
3/19	N5QWA	TERRY
3/19	KE5AWZ	MIKE
3/27	KB5SMX	MAUREENA
3/31	NØJA	JOHN
4/01	KF5WP	ALBERT
4/01	W5QEP	ROGER
4/06	KE5JXC	ARNOLD

Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership applications, this is why some may not be on the list.

## VE TESTING

There will not be a VE Test Session at the March General Meeting on March 19<sup>th</sup>, however there will be a VE Test Session at the AARA Hamfest in Rayne, LA on March 15<sup>th</sup> at 8:45 AM. Bring copies of ID & CSCE / FCC License.

**DAYLIGHT  
SAVINGS  
TIME  
BEGINS  
SUNDAY  
MARCH 8<sup>th</sup>**



Set your clocks forward one hour  
Saturday night.

**Time to get your  
2009—20010 Club dues  
to Mrs. Joy Breau  
N 5 Y C S — A A R A  
Treasurer!**

**FEBRUARY 2009 ACADIANA AREA 2 METER NET REPORTS**

NET	SESSIONS:	TOTAL CHECK-INS:	TOTAL TRAFFIC:	TOTAL TIME: Minutes	Net Manager
OAARC Net - Opelousas Area Amateur Radio Club	4	41	0	61	N5LRZ Ray
AARA Monday Night Net	4	73	0	134	KN5GRK Herman
Acadiana ARES Net	4	21	0	55	N5LRZ Ray
Vermillion Parish ARES Net	4	29	1	71	KE5JXC Arnold
HEAL Net      *(M=Medical G=Guest)	2	* 8 M / 5 G	0	27	KE5JKD Larry

**Lagniappe** . . . is something thrown in, gratis, for good measure.      --Mark Twain.

**FYI****ARRL Executive Committee Issues Mobile Amateur Radio Operation Policy Statement**

On January 30, at the instruction of the Board of Directors at its January 2009 meeting, the ARRL Executive Committee adopted a policy statement on mobile Amateur Radio operations. The statement addresses the growing number of proposed state and local laws and ordinances regulating the use of cellular telephone and text messaging, inadvertently affecting Amateur Radio mobile communications.

In its statement, the Executive Committee urges state and municipal legislators to limit the scope of their proposals, limiting them to devices such as full duplex wireless telephones and related hand-held or portable equipment. Alternately, it suggests that licensed Amateur Radio operation be listed specifically as an exclusion to the proposed regulations.

The ARRL Policy Statement also recognizes the responsibility of the amateur community to conduct its activities in a manner that does not create unsafe operation of their motor vehicle.

Also, the following from the ARRL .....

We are seeing the integration of

amateur radio and the medical community more and more every day. Amateur radio operators are lending their communications expertise and developing extensive capabilities at hospitals and other medical facilities all across this country. This is a good use of the mission capable resources we as Hams bring to the larger emergency management community. We need to remain focused on the role we play in this situation. Our role is not to enable businesses to remain in operation. Our role is to serve the public during disasters...and by providing communications to meet the needs the emergency creates, we do our job, and do it well.

**New Orleans Hamfest**

JARC, Delta DX Association, Westside ARC and the Thibodaux ARC have joined to re-establish this fest. Just recently they received their ARRL Official Sanction. Best wishes for a very successful fest on October 3, 2009, at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Kenner. For details go to:

[www.cqtopia.com/nolahamfest/](http://www.cqtopia.com/nolahamfest/).

We are planning an ARRL/ARES Forum during the fest if meeting space can be arranged.

Time and venue to be announced.

**AARA WEBSITE**

Roland Guidry NA5Q has done some outstanding work on making our club website one of the best in the state for amateur radio.

Our website has links to just about everything you need to know about on amateur radio through its many links. Some of the most noticeable are the following.

- Members Roster & Info
- Hamfest information
- LARC Newsletter
- AARA By-laws

These are just a few of many piece of information you can find at:

<http://www.w5ddl.org>

Thanks for all the work you do for the club Roland, we all appreciate the GREAT job you do.

**THANKS**

At this time, the AARA would like to thank the following for helping make the LARC possible:

**GULF SOUTH PRINTING**

**&**

**SPECIALTIES**

For supplying printing materials.

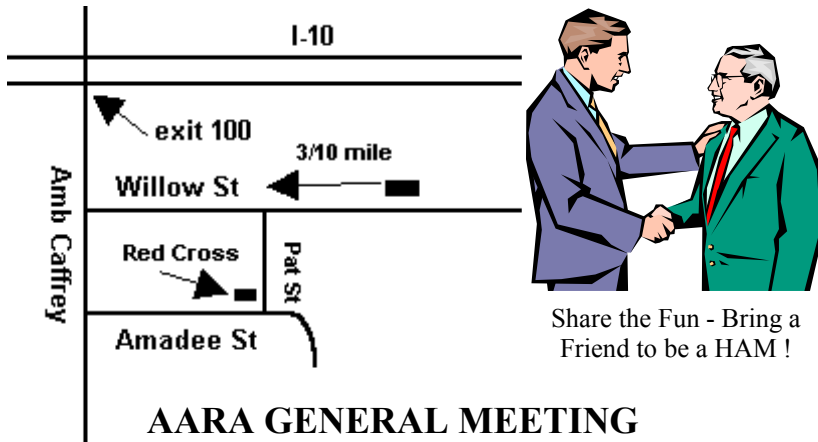
**—0—**

**GLOBAL TECHNOLOGIES GROUP**

For use of their copy machine.

**Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.**  
**P. O. Box 51174**  
**Lafayette, LA 70505-1174**

Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>



Share the Fun - Bring a  
Friend to be a HAM !

**AARA GENERAL MEETING**  
**Thursday March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009—7:00 PM**  
**VE Testing at 6:00 PM**  
**Red Cross Building, 101 N. Pat St., Scott, LA**  
**Lunch Bunch**  
Golden Corral - Amb. Caffery - Lafayette, LA  
Check 146.820 - repeater for info.

COMPLEMENTARY  
ISSUE

## Orange Beef and Broccoli

(from: [www.cajun-recipes.com](http://www.cajun-recipes.com))

- |                                                                 |                                                                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3/4 lb well-trimmed beef top sirloin<br>steak, cut 1 inch thick | 1/3 cup picante sauce                                          |
| 4 tsp soy sauce                                                 | 1/2 tsp sugar                                                  |
| 1 to 2 tsp finely shredded fresh ginger, as<br>desired          | 2/3 cup orange juice                                           |
| 1 tsp finely shredded orange peel                               | 2 tsp cornstarch                                               |
| 1 tbs vegetable oil                                             | 3 green onions with tops, cut diagonally<br>into 1 inch pieces |
| 2 cups small broccoli florets                                   | 2 cups hot cooked rice                                         |
|                                                                 | sliced almonds (optional)                                      |

Slice meat into 2x1/8 inch strips. Toss with soy sauce, ginger and orange peel; set aside for 10 minutes. Heat oil in 10 inch skillet over medium high heat. Stir-fry meat mixture just until meat is no longer pink. Remove and re-serve. Add broccoli, red pepper, picante sauce and sugar to skillet. Reduce heat; cover and cook until broccoli is crisp-tender, about 3 minutes. Combine orange juice and cornstarch; add to skillet with reserved meat and green onions. Cook and stir 1 minute or until thickened. Serve over rice. Sprinkle with almonds, if desired, and serve with additional picante sauce.

Send your favorite recipe to:  
Herman KN5GRK  
[kn5grk@bellsouth.net](mailto:kn5grk@bellsouth.net)



## FCC LICENSE INFO SERVICE

The FCC toll-free (WATS) number for Amateur Radio license inquiries - including inquiries about vanity and new call signs. The number, 888-225-5322, will connect callers to the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at 202-414-1250 or [ulscmm@fcc.gov](mailto:ulscmm@fcc.gov). Web site:

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>

New callsign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/VEC at 860-594-3000.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>

The mailing address to the FCC is: Federal Communications Commission, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg PA 17325-7245